

I move, seconded by the hon. member for Timiskaming (Mr. Peters):

That this House express the hope that the Minister of Veterans Affairs will soon be in a position to announce that war veterans allowance recipients will not lose any portion of their allowance because of increases they receive in the guaranteed income supplement or in family allowance payments arising out of Bill C-5 or Bill C-10, but that such veterans will receive the full benefit provided by parliament in Bill C-5 and Bill C-10, and that this assurance will be given as soon as possible, certainly before Christmas.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Introduction of such a motion for debate, pursuant to Standing Order 43, would require the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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PROCEDURE AND ORGANIZATION

PROCEDURE ADOPTED IN DEALING WITH STARRED QUESTIONS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe North): Mr. Speaker, I rise, under the provisions of Standing Order 43, on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. My motion concerns the failure of the Standing Committee on Procedure and Organization to meet and deal satisfactorily with the problems before it, one of which is the status of starred questions. This matter was drawn to the attention of the committee both by Your Honour and by myself.

The starred question procedure was first used under the government of—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I must ask the hon. member to put his motion.

Mr. Rynard: The motion is that at the present time starred questions are not answered the next day, or even within a week or within a month. You, Mr. Speaker, have drawn this matter to the attention of the Standing Committee on Procedure and Organization. I have drawn it to the attention of the House leader on three occasions.

Some hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Rynard: Mr. Speaker, I have to lay this groundwork so that—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I cannot extend to the hon. member any different treatment than I extend to anyone else. If the hon. member has a motion, he will have to put it.

Mr. Rynard: Then I will state that after asking the former House leader on three occasions and the present House leader to call a meeting—and the understanding was that it was to be held—on the status quo of starred questions—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I will have to proceed with the question period.

Oral Questions

Mr. Rynard: Mr. Speaker, I move that my question be sent to the Standing Committee on Procedure and Organization and that the committee meet immediately to deal with the status of starred questions. This motion is seconded by the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker).

Mr. Speaker: Such a motion can be presented at this time only with unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

URBAN AFFAIRS

AHOP MORTGAGE DEFAULTS—SEVERITY OF PROBLEM

Mr. Dean Whiteway (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Public Works and Minister of State for Urban Affairs: it concerns the daily reports coming from across the country about AHOP defaults and walkaways. Could the minister outline to the House the scope and severity of this problem? Just how serious is it in respect of the AHOP program?

Hon. André Ouellet (Minister of Public Works and Minister of State for Urban Affairs): It is a very popular program, Mr. Speaker.

• (1417)

Mr. Whiteway: Mr. Speaker, my supplementary is for the same minister. Perhaps with the information I shall give the minister, he will not take the question so lightly. His department and CMHC have confirmed that in Ontario alone in the first quarter of next year there will be in excess of 8,000 notifications of foreclosures in respect of AHOP?

An hon. Member: Shame.

Mr. Whiteway: Imagine the result if one multiplies that figure to cover the rest of Canada. Would the minister tell the House now, or make a statement on motions today, fully outlining this severe problem surrounding AHOP?

[Translation]

Mr. Ouellet: Mr. Speaker, last week I testified before a committee of the House and I explained the government's performance with regard to subsidies for the construction of homes in Canada. There is no doubt that there is an increase in the number of foreclosures. That depends on the economic conditions we are facing; but in his question, the hon. member refuses to acknowledge the fact that whatever transactions are done by the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation or by